CLAIMS AMENDMENT

Claims 1 through 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 through 17 (Withdrawn)

Claim 18 (New): A tank assembly for removable attachment to the handle of a floor-washing apparatus which comprises: a tank having an upper portion and a lower portion; a removable lid affixed to said upper portion; a fluid discharge opening formed in the lower portion; a spring-biased valve mounted in the lower portion of said tank at said fluid discharge opening and movable alternatively between a first valve position in which said fluid discharge opening is open to the allow the passage of fluid there through and a second valve position in which said fluid discharge opening is closed to prevent the passage of fluid there through; a tank receptacle adapted to receive said tank lower portion having a top portion and a bottom portion; a fluid discharge sleeve mounted in the bottom portion of said tank receptacle and connected to a fluid discharge line; tank attachment means for attaching said tank lower portion to said tank receptacle bottom portion; and wherein said receptacle mounted fluid discharge sleeve engages said spring-biased valve affixed to said tank lower portion to move said spring-biased valve to said first valve position to provide fluid communication between said tank and said fluid discharge sleeve when said tank lower portion is attached to said tank receptacle bottom portion.

Claim 19 (New): The tank assembly of claim 18 further comprising: a valve housing having a central bore (19) formed therein and affixed to the bottom portion of said tank; wherein said spring-biased valve (23) is mounted in said valve housing central bore (19); a seal seat in said valve housing formed at one end of said central bore; and a first seal (24) mounted on said spring-biased valve which engages said seal seat (32) when said spring-biased valve is in said second valve position.

Claim 20 (New): The tank assembly of claim 18, wherein said tank attachment means comprises a peg on one of said tank receptacle and said tank lower portion and a slot in

the other of said tank receptacle and said tank lower portion; and wherein said spring-biased valve biases said tank upwardly to thereby clamp said peg in said slot when said tank lower portion is attached to said tank receptacle bottom portion.

Claim 21 (New): The tank assembly of claim 18 , comprising an outer surface formed on said tank lower portion, an inner surface formed in said tank receptacle and wherein said peg is mounted on said tank lower portion outer surface and said slot is formed in said tank receptacle inner surface.

Claim 22 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 18 further comprising a seal seat mounted on said spring-biased valve, a sleeve seal mounted in said fluid discharge sleeve and therein said seal seat engages said fluid discharge sleeve seal when said tank lower portion is attached to said receptacle.

Claim 23 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 22, wherein said sleeve seal is interposed between said fluid discharge line and said fluid discharge sleeve.

Claim 24 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 22, said spring-biased valve having a spring which biases said spring-biased valve towards said second valve position and simultaneously biases said spring-biased valve seal seat into engagement with said fluid discharge sleeve seal.

Claim 25 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 19, wherein said first seal acts to retain said spring-biased valve within said valve housing central bore.

Claim 26 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 19 further comprising a second ring-shaped seal (25) mounted in a slot on the lower part of said spring-biased valve (23) which forms a seal with said housing bore (19) and wherein said second seal is configured in a U-shape so that the internal side adheres to the valve, while the external side which would otherwise tend to expand outwards, thanks to its smoothness and elasticity in fact succeeds in strongly adhering to the internal surfaces (19) of the housing

central bore in which the valve is inserted (23) thereby achieving highly effective sealing potential even when it rubs against this surface (19) as the result of valve movement (23).

Claim 27 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 18, wherein said fluid discharge line has an external tubular end (12) for the rapid attachment of a flexible pipe (10).

Claim 28 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 18, further comprising a portion of a pipe covering (7) which descends from the lower surface of said tank receptacle (2) to protect one end section (12) of the fluid discharge line (12, 31) against any obstacles which it might encounter during the actual movement of the floor washing device during its use.

Claim 29 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 27, further comprising a handle mounting sleeve (3) attached to said tank receptacle, said mounting sleeve having an enlargement (6) which protects the portion of the flexible pipe (10) which comes from the discharging tubular end section (12) of the fluid discharge line in order to protect it against the risk of any obstacles that it might encounter during the actual tool movement.

Claim 30 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 20, the special feature of which is that the pegs and slot which connect the tank and the tank receptacle are arranged according to the "bayonet" connection principle, are visibly accessible to the operator which means that the connection and disconnection operations are facilitated without having to try and attempt to search for the correct position and without any futile forcing of the parts to be connected.

Claim 31 (New): The tank assembly of Claim 30, wherein the connection between the tank (1) and tank receptacle (2) occurs in accordance with the "bayonet attachment" principle, by inserting the pegs which are fitted externally of the tank on the entrances of the bayonet slots (13) present on the tank receptacle, thereby exerting a downward pressure on the tank in order to offset the spring-biased valve pre-charge pressure, and by rotating the tank so that the pegs (14) are positioned under the slot edging (13) on which

there is a special raised cavity (44) to permit the pegs to rise inside, so as to ensure connection stability.